

COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A mixing console apparatus comprising:
an input section that inputs a plurality of electric signals;
a processing section that processes the inputted electric signals;
an output section that outputs the processed electric signals; and
a plurality of operators being provided in correspondence to a plurality of circuit components contained in those of the input section, the processing section and the output section, and being assigned with various functions in correspondence to the respective circuit components, the plurality of operators being manually operable to act on the corresponding circuit components for controlling the electric signals, said plurality of operators being divided into groups and subgroups,

wherein the plurality of the operators are arranged to form at least one a plurality of group operation section sections such that the respective group operation sections have specific functions that are different from each other, operators having similar functions are grouped into the same group operation section, and

wherein the plurality of the group operation sections are arranged in tandem with each other,
wherein the each group operation section is divided into subgroups with color markings such that operators belonging to one subgroup is distinguished from operators belonging to another subgroup by the respective color markings,

wherein the subgroups belonging to one group operation section and the subgroup belonging to another group operation section correspond to each other, such that the corresponding subgroups include the same number of operators in the same arrangement,

wherein all of the subgroups belonging to the plurality of the group operation sections are arranged in tandem, and the sequence of the subgroups in one group operation section is the same as the sequence of the subgroups in another group operation section, and

wherein the color marking have a predetermined order, such that the color markings are applied sequentially to the sequence of the subgroups in the same manner among the respective group operation sections according to the predetermined order, so that the corresponding subgroups have the same color marking.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The mixing console apparatus according to claim 2claim 1, wherein different colors are allocated to different subgroups to distinguish from each other.

Claim 4 (original): The mixing console apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the different colors are allocated in the order determined by brightness thereof to the different subgroups.

Claims 5-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A mixing console apparatus comprising:

an input section that inputs a plurality of electric signals;

a processing section that processes the inputted electric signals;

an output section that outputs the processed electric signals;

a bus system connecting between the input section and the output section through the processing section; and

a plurality of operators being provided in correspondence to a plurality of circuit components of the processing section disposed on the bus system and being assigned with various functions in correspondence to the respective circuit components, the plurality of operators being manually operable to act on the corresponding circuit components for processing the electric signals, said plurality of operators being divided into groups and subgroups,

wherein the plurality of the operators are arranged to form a first group operation section and a second group operation section, such that operators corresponding to circuit components disposed on an input side of the bus system are grouped into the first group operation section and operators corresponding to circuit component disposed on an output side of the bus system are grouped into the second group operation section,

wherein the first group operation section and the second group operation section have specific functions that are different from each other,

wherein the first group operation section is divided into subgroups with color markings such that operators belonging to one subgroup is distinguished from operators belonging to another subgroup by the respective color markings, and the second group operation section is divided into subgroups in correspondence to the subgroups of the first group operation section with color markings such that operators belonging to one subgroup is distinguished from operators belonging to another subgroup by the respective color markings, and

wherein the subgroup subgroups of the first group operation section has have the same corresponding marking as that of the corresponding subgroup subgroups of the second group operation section,

wherein the subgroups of the first group operation section and the subgroups of the second group operation section correspond to each other, such that the corresponding subgroups have the same number of operators in the same arrangement,

wherein the subgroups of the first group operation section and the subgroups of the second group operation section are arranged in tandem, and the sequence of the subgroups in the first group operation section is the same as the sequence in the second group operation section, and

wherein the color markings have a predetermined order, such that the color markings are applied sequentially to the sequence of the subgroups in the same manner amongst the first and the second group operation sections according to the predetermined order, so that the corresponding subgroups have the same color markings.

Claim 14 (canceled)